

# NATIVE NEWS

Native News compiled by  
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for *State of the Arts*

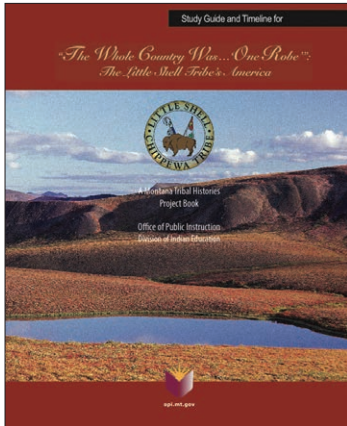


## The Whole Country was... 'One Robe'

*The Whole Country was.... 'One Robe' - The Little Shell Tribe's America*, a Montana Tribal Histories Project book, is an excellent new resource found on the Office Public Instruction's Indian Education For All website: [http://www.opi.mt.gov/pdf/IndianEd/Search/Social%20Studies/LittleShellStudyGuide\\_OneRobe.pdf](http://www.opi.mt.gov/pdf/IndianEd/Search/Social%20Studies/LittleShellStudyGuide_OneRobe.pdf).

The Little Shell Tribe of Chippewa Indians of Montana enlisted Dr. Nicholas Vrooman to develop this study guide and timeline which includes student activities, maps, chronologies, and both American and Canadian policies and history.

The overview reads: "The 'One Robe' book is about the Little Shell Tribe of Chippewa Indians of Montana, a disfranchised society of indigenous North Americans known as 'Landless Indians.' But more fully and accurately this book is about those Aboriginal peoples who live along what became the Canada and United States border between the Lake of the Woods (MN) and the Rocky Mountains (MT) who did not fit as part of either national project in the reconfiguration of the North American West. The Little Shell Tribe of Chippewa Indians of Montana is part of this culture-group."



## Nominations sought for First People's Fund 2016 Community Spirit Awards

The Community Spirit Awards is a national fellowship award for American Indian, Alaska Native or Native Hawaiian artists. First Peoples Fund chooses honorees for their commitment to sustaining the cultural values of native people. The process of bringing spirit back to community is an important responsibility for artists – it is part of a sacred honor system.

First Peoples Fund works to strengthen that honor system by recognizing these exceptional artists for knowing themselves, honoring others, and sustaining spirit in their own communities.

Nominees must be:

- Practicing artists of demonstrated maturity in their field;
- Continually practicing artists for a minimum of 10 years; and
- A documented affiliate of a United States tribe (Alaska Native or Native Hawaiian artists included).

Note: In addition to visual arts, First Peoples recognizes contemporary and traditional forms of performing arts and literary arts.

Nominate online at [www.firstpeoplesfund.org](http://www.firstpeoplesfund.org). Deadline is July 1, 2015.

Fellowship recipients will receive \$5,000 designed to give them the opportunity to practice their art.

## First Peoples' Market accepts applications through April 30

The Montana Folk Festival is accepting applications through April 30 for the 2015 First Peoples' Market, a festival market that features the finest work of regional Native American artists. The market is part of the annual festival, held July 10-12 in Butte.

Both deeply traditional crafts and more contemporary artistic expressions rooted in Native American experience will be featured in the market which will be located again adjacent to the Montana Folklife Area.

**Selection Process:** The First Peoples' Market features the hand-made creations of the region's finest Native artists and craftspeople. It includes both traditional crafts and more contemporary artistic expressions rooted in the American Indian experience.

Applicants must comply with the definition of "Indian," or "Indian Artisan," under the Indian Arts and Crafts Act of 1990, and

provide proof of this or show proof of being enrolled members of recognized Native American tribes.

Lean more at [montanafolkfestival.com](http://montanafolkfestival.com). Application forms are available online.

## Attention Native Artists: Do you have questions about the Affordable Care Act?

American Indians or Alaska Natives enrolled in a federally recognized tribe can choose a health plan at any time during 2015 through the Health Insurance Marketplace. Free enrollment assistance is available throughout the state, either in person, over the phone or online.

American Indians can always continue to receive services from the Indian Health Service and tribal or urban health clinics, but a tribal member's health care choices increase greatly if one is covered through the marketplace. The new insurance plans cover important services like: pre-existing conditions, prescriptions, wellness checkups, emergency, hospitalizations and child/maternal health.

Certified application counselors and application navigators are located in local health clinics and Indian health services sites.

For more information contact: Cindy Washakie, ACA Navigator, Rocky Mountain Tribal Leaders Council: [cwashakie@mtwytlc.com](mailto:cwashakie@mtwytlc.com) or 406-860-4978.

## Workshop: World's Apart but not Strangers

"Worlds Apart But Not Strangers," a Holocaust Education and Indian Education for All Workshop, will be held in Missoula July 20-July 26. One of 15 satellite seminars nationwide, sponsored by New York City's Memorial Library in New York City and the Montana Writing Project, this institute is designed for individuals who currently teach or are interested in teaching the Nazi Holocaust and/or Indian Education for All, and would like to discover ways to make connections between these topics.

Relevant to teachers of grades 4-12 as well as college and university faculty, the purpose of the course is to provide novice and experienced teachers with knowledge about, and teaching strategies for, Holocaust education, Indian Education for All and community building, using literacy, and especially writing, as tools to drive inquiry.

The institute will focus on past history, including the Nazi Holocaust and the impact of U.S. policies on Native peoples of our nation. The lens will then turn to the present, as participants consider the roles people choose in their daily interactions with each other as well as the stereotypes and prejudice affecting our schools and communities today.

"Worlds Apart" is offered at no cost to teachers (UM credits are available for \$135). Application deadline is May 15; download the application at [www.thememorallibrary.org/montana-application-2015](http://www.thememorallibrary.org/montana-application-2015).

## Gordon Monroe sculptures at Museum of the Plains Indian

The Museum of the Plains Indian in Browning is featuring the sculptures of Gordon Monroe (Blackfeet) through May 22. Monroe has a 40-year career as a professional artist.

In his early career, he worked at the Big Horn Art Foundry in Browning. The foundry was owned and operated by Robert Scriver, a nationally known western sculptor.

Working under Scriver's supervision, Monroe was offered the unique opportunity to learn the entire spectrum of lost-wax casting, from the creation of the clay model to the pouring of the finished bronze. As his knowledge and expertise in its techniques grew, so did his interest in the art form.

He works in clay, bronze and fiberglass. The inspiration he draws from historical sources and discussions with elders influence the style of his sculpture.

Monroe's sculpture was featured in his first solo exhibition at the Museum of the Plains Indian in 1973, and has since been featured at the C.M. Russell Museum, Native American Museum of Art, Montana Historical Society, and the Heard Museum, and is available at the Blackfeet Heritage Center and Art Gallery.

For more information, contact the museum at 406-338-2230.



Sculptures by Gordon Monroe are on display at the Museum of the Plains Indian in Browning through May 22.

(Photo by John McGill/Glacier Reporter)

## Governor's Arts Awards (from previous page)

Waddell's sophisticated modernist paintings have attracted widespread recognition. "As a working rancher, he knows whereof he paints," writes Peterson. "There is no distance from, or fleeting relationship with, his subject."

He also creates sculpture, and according to Peterson, "it's this body of work that's more apt to reveal humor, irony, and social critique."

His work is included in the permanent collections of the Denver Museum of Art, Los Angeles County Museum of Art, Booth Museum of Western Art, Buffalo Bill Center of the West, and the National Museum of Wildlife Art, among others. Recent solo exhibitions have included the Albany Museum in Georgia, Gail Severn Gallery in Ketchum, ID, Altamira Fine Art in Jackson, WY, Visions West Gallery

in Bozeman, and the Art Museum of Eastern Idaho in Idaho Falls.

"His work is painterly and masterful, and the zeal with which it is snapped up by collectors nationwide is testimony to the maturity of his vision and the quality of the work," writes Peterson.

He's also generous to, and supportive of, younger generations of artists, and has been an avid collector of others' work, much of which he has donated to the state's public collections.

"Few artists have done as much to align this place – Montana – with incisive and original art and with the larger art world," notes Peterson. His success has helped build "the growing reputation Montana has as fertile ground for artists."



"Monida Angus" by Theodore Waddell

## De La Salle Blackfeet School Founder's Day Celebration

De La Salle Blackfeet School in Browning hosts its annual Founder's Day Celebration and Donor Appreciation Mass May 15-16. Student artwork will be displayed on Friday, May 15, including birdhouses and work from professional Blackfeet artists. Several lithographs by well-known artist Martin Grelle will also be featured.

The celebration continues with an afternoon Mass with the school community and Fr. Ed Kohler of Little Flower Parish followed by a social, dinner and auction at 5:30 p.m. Please RSVP to Br. Dale Mooney at [brodale@dlbsbs.org](mailto:brodale@dlbsbs.org), Colleen Dunne at [cdunne@dlbsbs.org](mailto:cdunne@dlbsbs.org) or by calling 406-338-5290. Suggested donation is \$25 per person.

The art show remains open from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Saturday, May 16.

For more details, visit [www.dlbsbs.org](http://www.dlbsbs.org).